

# Yellow Advertiser Southend

Week ending Friday December 8, 2017

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## Local News

Southend, Leigh, Belfairs, Prittlewell, Marine Estate, Chalkwell, Westcliff, Southchurch, Thorpe Bay, Shoebury, Great Wakering, Eastwood

# SCHOOL'S OUT AT SOUTHEND

● Council axes plans for a free school on St Laurence Park site

By Michael Cox

southend@yellowad.co.uk

SOUTHEND Council has announced it has dropped plans for a new free school in the borough.

The council confirmed the move as it announced it planned to address a need for more school places by expanding existing secondary schools.

According to a report before a cabinet meeting in September, the council had identified a site adjacent to St Laurence Park, in Southend, for a free school, which it envisaged to be a science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) school.

The secondary school was intended to address the demand for places from September 2019, but Cllr James Courtenay, executive councillor for children and learning, said the council no

longer needed to pursue the free school.

Eight secondary schools have confirmed to the council that they are willing to expand to create 13 new forms of entry (FE) between them by 2020.

A council spokesman said an additional five FE are needed from 2018, a further six in 2019 and two in 2020.

Belfairs Academy, Shoeburyness High and St Thomas More are the schools which have agreed to expand in 2018.

Chase High, Cecil Jones Academy, St Bernard's High and The Eastwood Academy will meet the shortfall in 2019, while Chase High and Southchurch High will accommodate the further two FE in 2020.

Cllr Courtenay said: "I am very grateful to our secondary schools who have worked with the council



GRATEFUL: Councillor James Courtenay said new school is no longer needed in Southend.

to come to this solution which offers a secure way forward for

the young people of Southend. ● Turn to page 14



MEETING: Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn in Southend

## Corbyn meets Southend business leaders

LABOUR leader Jeremy Corbyn paid a visit to Southend last week.

A Southend Labour spokesman said that Mr Corbyn met Labour Party members on Thursday and gave a speech at the Park Inn Hotel on Church Road.

During his day in the town, he also met with members from Essex Chambers of Commerce to talk about employment, housing, infrastructure and public services.

A spokesman for the Chambers of Commerce said there was some "useful" discussions, adding: "Jeremy and his team took away some key points about the issues that are important to businesses, including the need to improve the town's road and rail infrastructure, to develop the skills base in and around Southend."

"And also encourage the take up of apprenticeships."

Denise Rossiter, chief executive of Essex Chambers of Commerce, said: "We regularly meet with local MPs and members of the Government, but it is equally important for us to engage with the opposition parties in Westminster as well, so we were more than happy to be able to arrange for Jeremy Corbyn to hear from members of Essex Chambers about what is concerning them."

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# Cardiac arrest left duo facing an uncertain future until £1m 'bit of magic'

## Jackpot lottery win saves couple from selling home

A COUPLE from Southend who were set to sell their home to avoid re-possession have hit the jackpot.

Tony Pearce, 66, and Deb Gellatly, 58, who have been engaged for 30 years, now plan to tie the knot after they won £1million in the Lotto Millionaire Raffle.

The win comes after a year in which their lives were "turned upside down", according to Tony, after he suffered a cardiac arrest while on holiday in February.

The former business manager said: "This time last year we had life all planned out. We were both working, had a nice three-bed home and could see our comfortable retirement within grasp. Then, while on holiday this February, I had a cardiac arrest and our life was turned upside down. The doctor told me I could go back to work but I would be unlikely see



**WINNERS:** Tony Pearce and Deb Gellatly plan to marry after 30-year engagement

the year out, or stop working all together.

"Obviously we took the latter but it put a massive strain on our finances and we'd decided our only way forward was to sell the house and move away to a cheaper part of the country. And then

a little bit of magic hit!"

Tony said the news of the jackpot win came on an email from The National Lottery – which he admitted he didn't open straightaway as he assumed it was only for a "couple of quid".

He revealed when he did

open it he thought they had won £1 but, "I took a closer look and saw a selection of noughts and realised it was quite a bit more."

When he shouted over to Deb that they had won £1million on the lottery, she said it was a scam and rolled

back over to sleep. The couple plan to get married in the first half of next year and Tony said: "It's what we always wanted to do but initially we didn't because there was always something else to do or buy. My ill-health really focused our minds on the priorities in life so when we decided we definitely wanted to get married more than anything, we couldn't because the funds weren't there. But they sure as hell are now! The way I see it, earlier this year the hospital gave me my life back, now the lottery has given our life together back and we intend to enjoy every second of it."

They also plan to go on holiday to north Norfolk, while Tony will be putting in an order for a Jaguar E Pace.

The couple will also pay off their mortgage and undertake renovations to their home.

## Houses for Old Vienna and Crowstone School?

A DEVELOPER is in the process of seeking planning permission to build homes on the site of a former school in Westcliff and a closed restaurant in Leigh.

Sandhurst New Homes has entered into a joint venture with BESB Ltd to redevelop the former Crowstone School site in Crowstone Road, Westcliff.

A planning application will be submitted in the very near future.

The two companies are also seeking planning permission to build 15 luxury apartments on the site of the former Old Vienna Restaurant site in Eastwood Road, Leigh.

The spokesman confirmed that demolition had begun

and there were no plans to include a restaurant in the development.

Brian Strickland, managing director of Sandhurst New Homes, said: "We believe the community will be better served by minimising noise nuisance, in particular the prior issue of late night revellers, in what is almost entirely a residential road,"



**APPLICATION:** developers hope to build houses in Crowstone Road and Eastwood Road (right).



### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Free town parking

● **PEOPLE** will be able to benefit from free parking at Southend's council-owned car parks in December.

All 10 council run car parks across Southend town centre will be free on Thursdays after 4pm for late-night shopping and all day on Sundays throughout December.

Free Sunday parking started on Sunday, December 3 and runs until New Year's Eve.

Car parks included in the scheme are Alexandra Street, Warrior Square, Seaway, Clarence Road, Tylers Avenue, York Road, London Road (behind Pizza Express), University Square, Essex Street and Short Street.

#### Charity success

● **PUPILS** at a primary school in Leigh raised £1,600 for a homeless charity by spending the whole night at school.

Year three children at Leigh North Street Primary School raised the money for HARP after taking part in The Really Big South Essex Sleep Out.

They spent a night sleeping on cardboard in the assembly hall.

#### Francois joins veterans

● **FORMER** defence minister Mark Francois visited a club in Southend that supports military veterans.

The Rayleigh and Wickford MP went along to the Southend Veterans Club, run by the SSAFA, on Thursday to meet veterans and see the work of volunteers there.

The club, also open to widows and widowers, was founded by Michele Everett in January 2016, and runs on Thursday afternoons.

It has 25 members and is held at the Royal Naval Association in the town.

Michele said: "We are pleased that Mark Francois has taken the time to join some of our local veterans and see first-hand what SSAFA Southend Veterans' Club offers veterans on a weekly basis, to 4pm in Leigh Community Centre.



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IF you are looking for a beautiful bespoke gift for a loved one this Christmas, head down to The Village at Barleylands, Billericay, and enjoy a visit to its farm too.

The Village plays host to many artisan studios, shops and boutiques. So whether you are looking to find something festive for your home, seeking out something special for family or friends, or searching for a present for that one person that is always hard to buy for, then you are sure to find the perfect gift at The Village.

As well as delightful festive items, many of the craft studios offer creative experiences – from art classes and glass decoration to sewing lessons and creative work-



shops – so you can even give a great gift with a difference.

The Village, which is open from 10am to 4pm, Tuesday to Sunday, also offers plenty of free parking.

Get in the festive spirit and celebrate all things Christmas with The Village this December.

For more information visit [www.barleylands.co.uk](http://www.barleylands.co.uk).

To enter the competition telephone your answer – A, B or C – to 0901 307 1664 with your name, address, telephone number and email.

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**B: Billericay tea rooms**

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**Sun: 0509 5.30 1751 5.40**

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**Wed: 0827 5.00 2108 5.20**

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# Dismay at bank branch closures

By Michael Cox

southend@yellowad.co.uk

NATWEST branches in Thorpe Bay, Benfleet and Canvey are to shut as part of a swathe of closures across the country.

Parent company Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) said on Friday it will close 197 NatWest branches in the UK, as well as 62 RBS ones.

According to the NatWest website, the branch in London Road, Benfleet shuts on May 24. The branch in Canvey High Street will close on May 31, while the Thorpe Bay bank in The Broadway will shut on June 28.

Justifying the closures, an RBS spokesman said more of its customers are doing their everyday banking online or by mobile phone.

The spokesman confirmed that it was replacing its traditional "bricks and mortar" branches with alternative ways to bank including community bankers, mobile bank on wheels and in post offices.

He added: "We will ensure compulsory redundancies are kept to an absolute minimum."

Councillors expressed their concerns about the closures.

Conservative councillor Tom Skipp, for Appleton ward in Benfleet, said: "I fully

understand that the number of transactions being completed on line by NatWest customers is increasing but I am also concerned that the decision to close branches on the High Street will make things difficult for the most vulnerable members of our society."

Cllr Beverley Egan, who represents St Peter's ward in Benfleet, added: "I feel the closures of both the Benfleet and Canvey Island branches takes no consideration for those loyal customers who will find it most difficult to travel to the next nearest branch particularly if it means using public transport."

Leader of the Canvey Island

Independent Party, Cllr Dave Blackwell, described the Canvey closure as "a terrible thing".

He said: "What they fail to understand is Canvey Island has an elderly population."

"A lot don't do online banking and prefer the traditional banking service which NatWest should honour."

Rochford and Southend East MP James Duddridge said he was "disappointed" to learn of the Thorpe Bay branch closure but said he had been reassured by NatWest that it is in talks with all affected customers and is proactively contacting vulnerable customers and regular branch users.

## Have your say on plans for future of healthcare services

A PUBLIC consultation has been launched into plans for future healthcare services in mid and South Essex.

At a meeting of the joint committee of the region's five clinical commissioning groups last Wednesday, it was agreed to begin the consultation on the proposals from the Mid and South Essex Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP).

The plans include the development of new assessment and treatment centres alongside each A&E department at Southend, Basildon, and Broomfield hospitals.

All three A&Es will remain open 24 hours a day and will receive "blue light" ambulances.

Some planned operations would be separated from emergency cases according to the proposals, with the possibility of some complex orthopaedic operations that need a few days hospital stay being performed in Southend Hospital for people in south Essex.

A new specialist stroke centre in Basildon would also be created, which would provide the highest dependency and intensive care for people in the first 72 hours following a

stroke alongside rapid access to diagnostics and specialist interventions.

This would be in addition to existing stroke units at the three hospitals.

Dr Caroline Dollery, GP and chairman of Mid Essex CCG, said: "The public consultation is an important next stage in the work we have been doing together to develop and build a health and care system fit for the future for the people of mid and south Essex and provide them with a further opportunity to give us their views to help shape the proposals."

"This is not a final decision to implement any of the changes described, which would only happen after the consultation with our local communities has finished and the feedback independently analysed."

Details of the proposals and the way people can respond are available at [www.nhs.uk/midandsouthessex.co.uk](http://www.nhs.uk/midandsouthessex.co.uk).

Feedback from the consultation will undergo independent review before it is considered by the joint committee in early summer 2018 with clinical evidence, financial plans and other details in a final business case.

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Photos by Martin Dalton



## Roman Day 'catapults' West Leigh into history

CHILDREN at a primary school in Leigh took part in a Roman Day last week. Year three pupils at Heycroft Primary School, in

Benvenue Road, dressed up as Romans and tried their hand at building a military catapult on Friday December 1.

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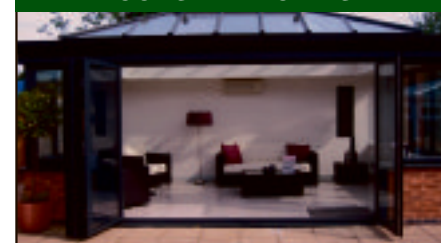


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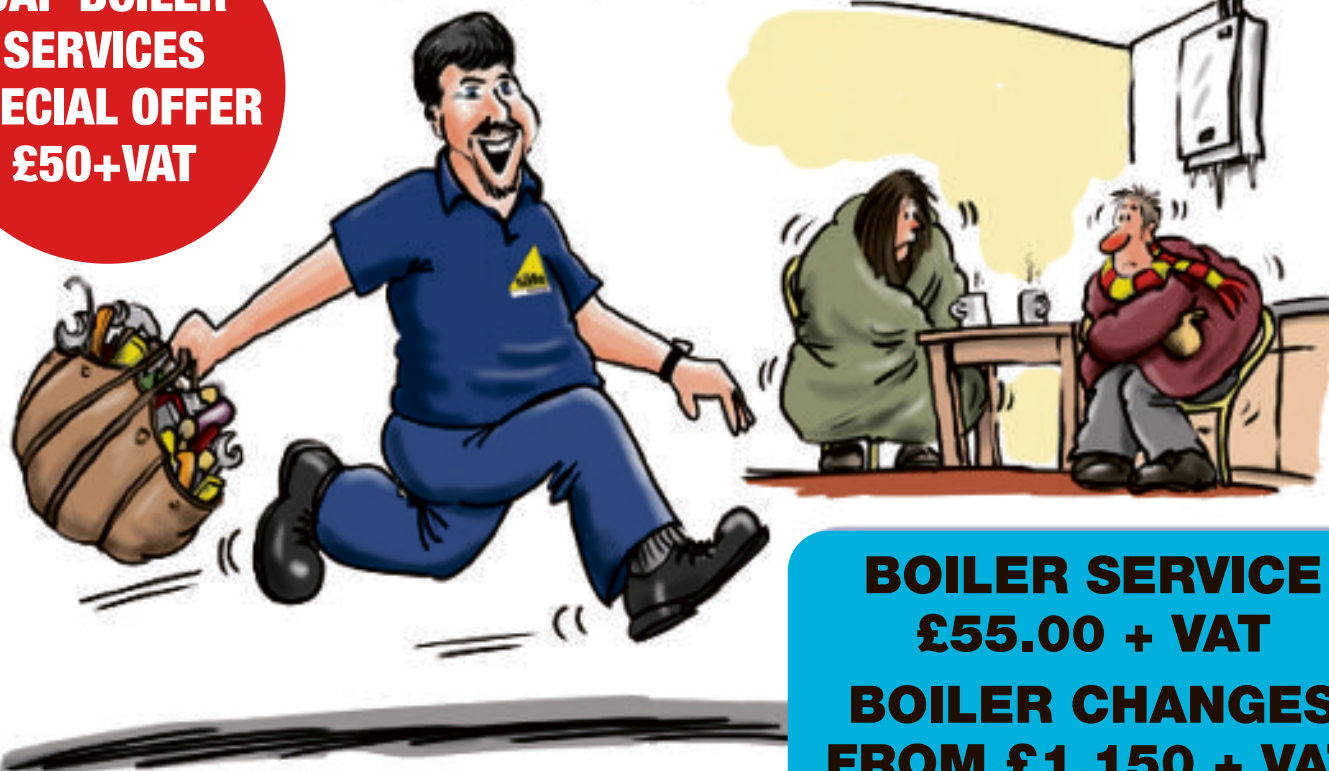
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# It's time to send us those scary stories



TIME is running out the enter the *Yellow Advertiser's* annual Christmas ghost story competition.

If you are an aspiring writer living in Essex or east London – and you have a scary story to tell – then get typing.

Book tokens are up for grabs in the adult and children's cat-

egories. The top three stories will be published in our first edition of January 2018.

As ghouls have moved into the 21st century, along with the rest of us, judges can only accept stories via email.

The competition is open to schools, so we would like to encourage English depart-

ments to take up the challenge to grab the coveted first place for their own literary protégés.

The junior section is open to youngsters aged 16 and under.

Entries should be no more than 350 words and emailed to [letters@yellowad.co.uk](mailto:letters@yellowad.co.uk).

The closing date is Sunday, December 10.

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## Diarrhoea, flatulence, bloating or abdominal pain?

# The riddle of recurring intestinal problems



The cause of recurring intestinal problems often resembles a guessing game – for doctors as well as for people affected. Recently, research has shown: in many cases the reason is an Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS). Fortunately, there is a promising relief called Kijimea IBS. And it is now available in the UK.

For a very long time, the causes of recurring intestinal problems were a mystery to scientists. Recently, they found a possible answer: symptoms

such as diarrhoea, bloating, flatulence or abdominal pain could be a sign for an irritated bowel, the so called Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS). Today, experts

are increasingly convinced that IBS may be caused by small damages in the intestinal barrier. These might allow pollutants and pathogens to enter the intestinal wall, triggering the typical IBS symptoms.

### Effective help for IBS sufferers

The good news is, a group of renowned scientists made a discovery: A globally unique bifidobacterium (B. bifidum MIMBb75) – contained only in Kijimea IBS. This bacterial strain attaches itself directly to the surface of the intestinal wall. Symbolically, it covers the damaged intestinal wall like a plaster and forms a protective layer.

### Promising study results

The effectiveness of Kijimea IBS has been shown in a clinical study: During the study IBS symptoms did not only significantly improve due to Kijimea IBS, but in some cases also stopped. Furthermore, the unique bifidobacterium is the only one worldwide that simultaneously showed an increase in the quality of life of IBS patients.

### Now available in the UK –

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Kijimea IBS may help patients with an irritated bowel to leave their everyday worries behind. In many other countries,

Kijimea IBS has already proven to be successful. This product is now available in the UK, too. Kijimea IBS is prescription free and has no known side effects.

## Kijimea IBS is brand-new!

It is only available by order over the pharmacist counter at

- your independent pharmacy or Superdrug pharmacy
- Boots (via the Alliance wholesale system) or
- online at [www.chemistdirect.co.uk](http://www.chemistdirect.co.uk) and [www.amazon.co.uk](http://www.amazon.co.uk)

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The photo in this advertisement contains models, not IBS patients. If symptoms worsen and/or persist, consult a doctor. For more information visit [www.kijimea.co.uk](http://www.kijimea.co.uk)

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ing schools and col-  
leges in Southend to  
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future workplace."

He added that he  
plans to present a  
paper to a cabinet  
meeting in January  
2018 recommending  
that the shortfall is met  
through expansions,  
which he said was  
always the council's  
preferred option.

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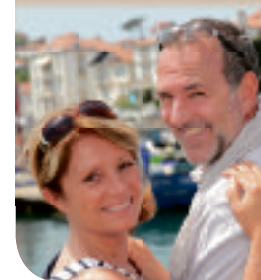
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## Cyprus Discovered

**8 days from £579** Flying direct from London Gatwick, March, April, October, November 2018, February, March & April 2019

Discover and explore the delights of Aphrodite's Isle on this escorted holiday to one of the Mediterranean's most favoured corners. Based in the coastal resort of Paphos, with its UNESCO-listed old town, this break in the winter sun offers plenty of opportunities for rest and relaxation, and includes three wonderful excursions. Discover Paphos' fascinating history on a guided walking tour, explore the snow-capped Troödos Mountains, and journey to the divided city of Nicosia. With the chance to join two other optional excursions, this is a perfect way to get to know delightful Cyprus and its charms.

### Tour highlights

- ✓ Spend a week soaking up some winter sun
- ✓ A walking tour of ancient Pano Paphos
- ✓ Enjoy a tour of the snow-capped Troödos Mountains
- ✓ Divided Nicosia is a fascinating city – enjoy a full day tour
- ✓ Discover typical inland village Lefkara
- ✓ Fully escorted by a friendly, experienced tour manager
- ✓ Seven nights' three-star half-board hotel accommodation (upgrade hotels available), return flights and transfers

\*Book by 14 Dec 2017. Prices shown do not include discount. Not valid with any other offer, subject to availability and may be withdrawn at any time.



## Historic Railways of the Isle of Man

**5 days from £514** Flying direct from London Gatwick, March, April, May, June, July, August, September & October 2018

Step back in time and discover the 'Jewel of the Irish Sea'.

### Tour highlights

- ✓ Journey on the narrow-gauge Isle of Man Steam Railway
- ✓ The Manx Electric Railway
- ✓ Explore historic Laxey
- ✓ Take the Snaefell Mountain Railway
- ✓ Visit classic resort Port Erin
- ✓ On a clear day, see 'Seven Kingdoms' from the summit station
- ✓ Discover many of the island's attractions with your included 'Go Explore Heritage' card
- ✓ Fully escorted by a friendly, experienced tour manager
- ✓ Four nights' half-board hotel accommodation, return flights and transfers

\*Book by 14 Dec 2017. Prices shown do not include discount. Not valid with any other offer, subject to availability and may be withdrawn at any time.

## The Beautiful Fjords of Western Norway

**8 days from £829** Flying direct from London Gatwick, April, May, June, July, August, September & October 2018

This journey to one of the world's most delightful destinations is less a holiday and more a treasured souvenir for life.

### Tour highlights

- ✓ Enjoy a stay in a fjord-side hotel
- ✓ Be treated as honoured guests by the welcoming villagers
- ✓ Journey by express boat from your hotel through breathtaking scenery to 'Fjordland Capital' Bergen
- ✓ A fascinating 'Fjord-Life' tour
- ✓ Explore further the pristine interior on unforgettable optional excursions
- ✓ Fully escorted by a friendly, experienced tour manager
- ✓ Seven nights' four-star half-board hotel accommodation, return flights and transfers

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## Swiss Alpine Glories

**8 days from £759** Flying direct from London Gatwick, Apr to Jul, Sept & Oct 2018

The natural wonders and historic towns and cities of the most beautiful Alpine paradise.

### Tour highlights

- ✓ A week in the resort of Chateau d'Oex
- ✓ Rest and relax in the idyllic surroundings of the Pays d'Enhaut (High Country)
- ✓ Take to the hills on foot or by cable car
- ✓ Visit the fascinating Hot Air Balloon & Cheese museums
- ✓ Discover Bern and Bernese Oberland
- ✓ Visit cheese-making village Gruyères
- ✓ Fully escorted by a friendly, experienced tour manager
- ✓ Seven nights' three-star bed and breakfast hotel accommodation, plus five dinners, return flights and transfers

\*Book by 14 Dec 2017. Prices shown do not include discount. Not valid with any other offer, subject to availability and may be withdrawn at any time.



## Madeira Discovered

**8 days from £729** Flying direct from London Gatwick, Feb to Apr, Oct & Nov 2018

All the colourful wonders of the fabled 'Garden Isle'.

### Tour highlights

- ✓ Enjoy a week of gentle exploration on the verdant 'Garden Isle'
- ✓ Get to know Madeira's colourful capital Funchal
- ✓ The city's Botanical Gardens are a joyous sight
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- ✓ Fully escorted by a friendly, experienced tour manager
- ✓ Seven nights' three-star bed and breakfast hotel accommodation, two lunches, return flights and transfers

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## Don't let the EU bully us anymore

WHEN will the British Government grow a pair?

The EU is dictating our exit fee and it looks like we are giving in to their demands. And now they are saying there will be no discussion on trade unless Ireland agrees to the Irish border issue.

Why is it called the Irish border as that is what it should be known as?

The British people voted to regain control of our borders and the UK Government is losing this battle already.

We also voted to return to governing ourselves and the EU is still telling us what to do.

Let's just pull out now and pay nothing, strengthen all borders, stop overseas aid and withdraw our troops from foreign lands and see what Europe thinks of that.

Maybe then we can cut the cost of building homes for the migrants that seem to have a priority over our own people who are struggling to survive or homeless.

We are still governed by Europe and the UK rich lining their own pockets supported by our own MP's mostly with hidden agendas.

How long will we continue to allow the EU to bully us before our leaders realise that they must represent the British people and have the courage to stand up against those European

leaders that are laughing at us? Churchill would be ashamed.

**Keith Little  
Benfleet**

## Raking it in over Brexit uncertainty

I WOULD like to draw *Yellow Advertiser* readers' attention to the many Brexit opportunities that seem to be arising of late where larger companies, consultants, accountants, trade bodies, those in the legal profession, or claiming to be, and assorted spivs seem to have been given a golden opportunity to rip off smaller companies and the gullible in the name of understanding the implications of Brexit.

A recent conference in London at a five-star hotel asked delegates to fork out £2,000 plus VAT for a customs compliance seminar along with a further £300 fee to attend a side Brexit Readiness Workshop.

With present uncertainties over UK/EU negotiations and a lack of clarity as to what the final outcome will be this seems to be money for old rope.

Furthermore, it is quite obvious apart from minor tinkering the UK government is not going to repeal any existing EU legislation. As a result there will be more costs and confusion all round.

All the while the government has committed to spending vast sums of taxpayers' money to turn the country into some sort of protective fortress

necessitating the employment of thousands more immigration and customs officials and their assorted penpushers to deal with exports and imports and create physical barriers and IT systems where none were needed before.

**Andrew Summers  
Benfleet**

## Consent for planning sat on for profits

SURELY the responsibility for social housing rests with local authorities to satisfy local needs.

The greatest cost is the land on which the property is built and much is owned by authorities that should be used solely for social housing.

Consequently the value of the built properties will be well in excess of the build cost and provide excellent security for lenders, preferably building societies.

In the matter of planning permission, this should be revoked if development is not commenced within a reasonable time.

It is a fact that land value is substantially increased with the granting of planning permission so providing incentive for owners not to develop and

see the value increase at no expense to themselves.

The latest news is that 700,000 building permissions are being sat upon to profit from the dire needs of our young people.

**Les Harrington  
Benfleet**

## Delay to regeneration of town?

I FOUND the recent reports of Basildon Council's plans to facilitate the hospital's plans to move some health facilities first of all, temporarily into the town centre but then more permanently to the area where the new college is to be located quite interesting.

I assume that the proposed site is Freedom House for the initial phase, but would ask what will happen to the previous ambitious plans for the night-time economy, with restaurants and a cinema in the town square?

Presumably, as the idea is temporary, this merely envisages a delay in the regeneration of the town centre.

One of the more ludicrous arguments for the centre, and I quote the report going to the resources committee is; A more convenient and user friendly-

setting for treatment for residents and their families in the town centre.

Increased footfall in the town centre which will contribute to its regeneration. Empty premises in the town centre being brought back into use.

Certainly making better use of empty units in the town centre is to be welcomed but the oft repeated line of increasing footfall and regenerating the town centre is somewhat optimistic.

Indeed, this was the original argument put forward when advocating the Dry Street development and the domino effect of this on the relocation of the college, with wealthy students spending their educational maintenance grants, sorry these were abolished, plus of course the new market, the development of which as well as taking away space around St Martin's Square and disrupting the lives of people using Westgate is unlikely to contribute much to the regeneration of the town centre.

One also wonders about car park and ambulance parking provision, plans for the college alone demonstrate a lack of extra spaces, but then again perhaps the slogan being used by the council of "creating opportunities, improving lives" is something of an exaggeration.

**Pat Rackley  
Laindon**

## Advice after fires involving cooking oil

TWO fires involving cooking oil happened in Thorpe Bay last week - one left a man with burns to his face, arms and hands.

The man was hurt trying to put out a blaze at a flat in Plas Newydd with water.

Three fire crews were called at 3.01pm last Thursday after reports of a large fire which has left the man homeless.

Firefighters extinguished the blaze in just under 45 minutes.

A second fire was at a ground floor flat in Colbert Avenue the day before at 1.25pm. It started after a chip pan caught alight and spread to the extractor fan. The pan was left unattended after the homeowner fell asleep.

The fire service's cooking safety tips include:

- Avoid leaving cooking unattended and never leave children in the kitchen alone.

- Keep tea towels and cloths away from the cooker.

- Check toasters are clean and are away from curtains.

- Keep the oven, hob and grill clean and in good working order. A build-up of fat and grease can ignite a fire.

- Take care cooking with hot oil - it sets alight easily. If the oil starts to smoke it's too hot. Turn off the heat and let it cool. Ideally cook oven chips but if deep fat frying use a thermostat controlled electric deep fat fryer.

- Don't cook after a night out drinking.

■ We welcome letters and e-mails on all subjects. Please keep them to fewer than 250 words and include your full name, address and daytime telephone number, wherever possible, for verification. Anonymous letters will not be accepted for publication. Contributions may be edited for reasons of space. The opinions expressed on this page are not necessarily those of this newspaper. Write to: Letters To The Editor, Yellow Advertiser, Acorn House, Great Oaks, Basildon, Essex, SS14 1AH or e-mail us at: [letters@yellowad.co.uk](mailto:letters@yellowad.co.uk)

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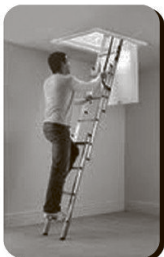


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# Regal Kitchens wins Business of the Year award

THE bestof Chelmsford is delighted to announce that it has a national winner in the category of the Business of the Year 2017 Awards.

With 34 reviews, kitchen design and fitting company Regal Kitchens is the winner, beating competition from businesses across the country.

The number and quality of the reviews it received are a testament to its ongoing commitment to deliver excellent service and a positive customer experience.

During the campaign people were asked to show their support for their favourite business by submitting a review of the service they had received.

At national level more than 37,000 verified reviews were left for those businesses that had qualified to take part in the awards.

The awards operate at national and local level with a UK Business of the Year, Category

Business of the Year and Town Business of the Year.

The businesses which won in the category nationally can be very proud of its achievements.

With Regal Kitchens as the winner, this has placed Chelmsford on the map for all the right reasons.

Also on a local level, Indian Restaurant Live Dosa received 61 reviews, winning Best Business in Town and recruitment company Ascension Global Recruitment, which received 18 reviews, was third nationally.

Tom Boshier,

from The bestof Chelmsford, said: "We are incredibly proud of all our local businesses who qualified for the Chelmsford Business of the Year Awards."

"They received fantastic reviews from local people using their services."

"On behalf of the businesses I would like to thank every single person who took the time to leave a review."

"By doing so they publicly acknowledged the contribution that these businesses make to our local economy."

For more about Regal Kitchens call its Chelmsford showroom, at 2 Navigation Road, on 01245 351151, or the Billericay showroom, at 2 Whitesbridge Retail Park, Crays Hill, on 01268 525922.

Visit [www.regalkitchens.co.uk/essex-kitchens/](http://www.regalkitchens.co.uk/essex-kitchens/) or find it on Facebook.

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It makes sense to shop around if you want new UPVC replacement windows and doors, so make sure you call The Window Man for sound advice and a fair, no-nonsense quote before you make your final decision.

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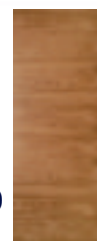
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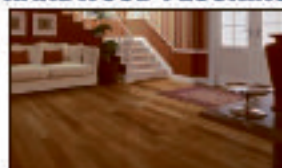
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# LIFESTYLE

## OH WHAT A CIRCUS!

Back on the road for comic Stephen K Amos

By Liz Wade

features@yellowad.co.uk

**S**TAND-UP comedian and broadcaster Stephen K Amos is back from a world tour and is already on the road again with his new show – Bread and Circuses.

His main aim for the tour, which includes a show at Palace Theatre, Southend, on Wednesday, January 31, is to help us forget what a mess the world is in right now.

Brexit. Trump. No more Mary Berry on the Great British Bake Off... Things are looking bleak, so wouldn't it be better to just forget all about it? Stephen might not be able to provide bread to the hungry masses, but no one else is going to put on a better circus.

The phrase "panem et circenses" or "bread and circuses" originates in 1AD Rome, coined by satirical poet Juvenal as a dual attack on the state's propensity for giving the people what they believe they wanted rather than what they actually needed, as well as a dig at people for being so easily swayed when real issues should concern their minds.

"The world now is one big crazy circus, and circus was one of the earliest forms of entertainment to keep the masses appeased in the same way that we have all these crazy distraction techniques now," Stephen said.

"One of the biggest TV shows of the year is Love Island: if that's not a major distraction technique I don't know what is. And also I was looking at the phrase, 'let them eat cake' as we live in a world with artisan types of cake and bread and no one is eating regular bread anymore. What was

once a staple food of the poor has become £4 a loaf."

Stephen, who has appeared in Celebrity Storage Hunters, Alan Davies: As Yet Untitled, Live At The Apollo and Have I Got News For You, as well as the fourth series of What Does The K Stand For? on BBC Radio 4, is known as a comedian who teases and cajoles members of his audience rather than beating them over the head with a heavily politicised stick. But is he getting angrier as the years go by?

"I don't think I'm getting angrier, but clearly the things around us are not getting any better," he said.

"One of the things I talk about in this show is why it seems like we're regressing and not moving forward. I am certainly more politicised, but I don't want to be one of those angry people who moves away from rational debate and goes to the extremes of being bitter and vitriolic – that's not in my nature at all."

You would think that Stephen might have grown a little weary with the constant whirl of long tours, but that couldn't be further from the truth.

"I love to go around the country and see the odd place that still has character and not just the same old bog-standard high street," he added.

"I like that you can engage with people and do jokes that are social commentary or maybe a bit risqué, and people will get them."

"I recently did some gigs in the Newcastle area in old working man's clubs from the seventies that haven't been decorated or anything. It was like stepping back in time, but the sheer joy of those people simply because we were there was incredible."

"Those people weren't jaded, but because we sometimes feel disenfranchised and upset about things happening in the world, it can be hard to keep that optimism alive."

Leave your problems behind for the evening with the charming Mr Amos and, who knows, maybe the world will seem a little bit brighter. After all, when Ancient Rome needed to distract itself from politics, nothing hit the spot like giving people cheap food and plenty of entertainment.

Our circuses might no longer involve gladiator fights to the death, but the same principle applies. Modern politics is a confusing mess, so no one can blame you for giving it a miss in favour of a night of laughs.

For tickets to see Stephen K Amos at Palace Theatre, Southend, on January 31 next year visit [southendtheatres.org.uk](http://southendtheatres.org.uk) or call the box office on 01702 351135.

BREAD: Stephen K Amos



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# Jake's strong Oscar bid

**STRONGER (15, 119 mins)**

ON April 15 2013, hundreds of lives were irrevocably altered in Boston when two homemade explosives detonated close to the finish line of the city's marathon.

The co-ordinated response to the terrorist attack and FBI-led manhunt were dramatised in yesteryear's adrenaline-fuelled action thriller Patriots Day.

Stronger relives the same shocking attack from the perspective of Boston native Jeff Bauman, who was a well-wisher in the crowd that fateful day and lost both of his legs in the blast.

Adapted from Bauman's memoir, David Gordon Green's uplifting drama chronicles events before and after the race, capturing the unbearable toll on Jeff and the people around him.

Jake Gyllenhaal delivers an Oscar-worthy performance, bristling with raw emotion, as the survivor, who became a symbol of Boston Strong – the manifestation of a city's unity in the face of barbarism.

It's a muscular and harrowing portrayal that powerfully captures every strained sinew and aching muscle of Jeff's nervous return to the land of the bruised but living.

The film opens with Jeff nursing the wounds of failed romance. He has lost his on-off girlfriend Erin (Orphan Black star Tatiana Maslany) because he was never

there for her.

When she unexpectedly turns up at a local bar, seeking donations for a marathon run in aid of Brigham and Women's Hospital, Jeff cajoles the rowdy clientele to dip into their wallets for a good cause.

"I'm going to be there at the finish line for you," Jeff pledges to Erin, who has heard his false promises before.

Except this time, Jeff is standing behind the barriers with a homemade sign, close to the spot where two explosives detonate, killing three and injuring hundreds.

Jeff wakes in a hospital bed surrounded by family and friends including his booze-sodden mother Patty (Miranda

**RUN: Tatiana Maslany as Erin Huntley in Stronger**

PA Photo/Lionsgate Films/Scott Garfield

Richardson) and dad Jeff Sr (Clancy Brown). Erin is also there, crippled by guilt that her ex-boyfriend may never walk again.

Romance is rekindled as Jeff faces agonising rehabilitation in a cramped apartment, which isn't wheelchair accessible.

His strength becomes a beacon of hope to a scared city but Jeff's stoicism is a brittle facade and he struggles to contain his fear, rage and self-destructive impulses.

"I'm going to walk again with you some day," Jeff defiantly vows to Erin.

Stronger is anchored by Gyllenhaal's stellar theatrics, and strong support from Maslany and Richardson as the two fierce women who must fight – sometimes each other – to patch together Jeff's splintered soul.

Director Green withholds the sickening horror of the bombing, in flashback, until the second half of the film, preferring to focus on flickering hope in the darkness.

He earns our tears without resorting to shameless emotional manipulation.

His film stands tall and proud like the defiant everyman at its centre.

**Released: December 8**  
**RATING: 7.5/10**

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### Friday, December 8

■ Preview – Downstairs at the rear of The RNA Club, 73-79 East Street, Prittlewell, Southend, SS2 6LQ. Martin McNeil, 8.30pm to midnight. Life membership £1.  
■ Counselling Service – The Olive Tree Centre, 9am-9pm, call anytime and we will get back to you, 01702 524346, enquiries@olivetreecentre.org.uk.  
■ Overeaters Anonymous Basildon Group – Nevenden Community Hall, St Peter's Church, Church Lane, Basildon, SS13 1BZ. 8pm. Colin, 07446 080054.  
■ George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for the over-50s, beginners tai chi: 10am to noon, darts: 2-4pm, marquetry: 10 to noon, art: 12.30-2.30pm. Snooker and bingo, £2, 01268 465854.  
■ Sequence Dancing – George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for the over-50s, 2.15-3.15pm, 01268 465854.  
■ Book Club – George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for the over-50s, 10-11am, 01268 465854.  
■ Drama Classes – Helen O'Grady Drama Academy, The Stables, Chalkwell Park Drive, Leigh-on-Sea, not a stage school, designed to increase children's life skills, to enrol call Dina 01245 328680.  
■ Table Tennis – Laindon Community Centre, Aston Road, off High Street, for over-50s, 11am-1pm, 07931 564105.

### Saturday, December 9

■ Mince pie morning – Canvey Methodist Church, Vaarden Road, 10.30am to noon.  
■ Concert – The Choir For All Seasons presents Angels & Shepherds, United Reformed Church, Chapel Street, Billericay, CM12 0UR, 7.30pm. Tickets £7 from 01277 656935, Slipped Discs, High St, Billericay, or on the door.  
■ Saturday Club – for people with special needs, 9am to noon, games, music, arts, crafts. Ages 14 upwards, Frypa Hall, The Fryth, Basildon, 01268 415409.  
■ Counselling service – The Olive Tree

Centre, 9am-9pm, call anytime and we will get back to you, 01702 524346, enquiries@olivetreecentre.org.uk.  
■ Yugioh Club – play and trade yugioh, 120 Southend Road, St Catherine's Church Hall, Wickford, SS11 8EB, mini-tournaments, 1.30-4.20pm, 07985 671289.  
■ Saturday Morning Club – St Michael's Church Hall, Leigh Road, 10am to noon, free entry, 01702 437863.

### Sunday, December 10

■ South East Essex Ramblers – 5.5-mile walk Pagelsam, 10am, meet outside Plough & Sail pub, SS4 2EQ. Details: 07842 211218.  
■ Ron Spack's Dinner Jazz Duo – Woodmans Arms, Rayleigh Road, Thundersley, 1pm.  
■ Santa Specials – Canvey Miniature Railway, next to Waterside Sports Centre, Sommes Avenue, Canvey Island, SS8 9RA. 11am-3pm. Adults and children £5 each. Take a train ride to see Santa in his Grotto, all children receive a present from Santa.  
■ Brush Strokes Art Group – Highlands Methodist Church, Leigh-on-Sea, 9.15am-12.15pm, 01277 627043.  
■ Exercise Class for stroke victims – St Peter's Church Hall, Eastbourne Grove, Southend, 2.30pm. 01702 612509.  
■ Sunday School – The Ark, Hadleigh Methodist Church, Chapel Lane, SS7 2PQ, 11am to noon, ages three to 10. Call 07585 601815 or 07967 913344.  
■ Quaker Meeting for silent worship and meditation – Quaker Meeting House, Dunsford Drive, Leigh-on-Sea, 10.30-11.30am, followed by conversation.  
■ King's Church, Southend – Blenheim School, off Blenheim Chase, Leigh, 10.30am to noon, 01702 523639.  
■ Greek Community of Southend & District, Church of St Barbara, St Phanourios and St Paul's, Salisbury Ave, Westcliff, 10am to noon, 01702 466435.  
■ Sunday Club – TGH Evangelical Church, Kiln Road, Thundersley, (ages three to 12), 10.45-11.45am, details 01702 554904.  
■ Mojo Friendship Club – Travellers' Joy, Downhall Road, Rayleigh, details Mo 07757 658799.

### Monday, December 11

■ Walking football sessions – Civic Hall, Grays, 6-7pm. £2 per session.  
■ Ron Spack's Jazztet – Dave Jago, trombone, Chris English, keyboard, Oakwood, Rayleigh Road, Eastwood, Southend, 8.30pm. Details 01702 512819.  
■ Bowls – FS&S Club, Gardiners Close, Basildon. All-weather green, free coaching,

details call Chris 01268 419831.

■ Green bowls – Mopsies Park, Vange, details 01268 558756.  
■ Coffee Morning and sale of goods – Christ Church, Wickford, 9am to noon.  
■ Club 50+ – 1B Queen's Road, Southend, 9.30am-3.30pm, daily, £2 day pass, details 01702 346863.  
■ Sunshine Coffee Morning – for parents in Craylands and Felmores area. Briscoe Community Centre, 9-11am, free workshop, coffee and creche. Call 07880 035968, or just turn up.  
■ Dance Class – usually six-week course, ballroom, Latin American, Ashingdon and East Hawkwell Memorial Hall. Info: 01702 546219/542349.  
■ Leigh Scrabble Club – 7-10pm. Wesley Hall, Leigh Broadway, Leigh-on-Sea. Turn up or call 01268 727915.  
■ Senior Citizens Club – Richmond Hall, Benfleet, 1.30-3.30pm.  
■ Counselling Service – Olive Tree Centre, 9am-9pm, call anytime and we will get back to you, 01702 524346, enquiries@olivetreecentre.org.uk.  
■ Over-50s Keep-fit Classes – Fryerns Community Centre, Pat 01268 770294.  
■ Duplicate Bridge – Balmoral Bridge Club, Highlands Methodist Church, Olive Avenue, Leigh (opp Thames Drive), 1.15pm-4.30pm, call 01702 343611 or 01702 520993.  
■ Duplicate Bridge – Thorpe Bay Bridge Club, 62 Southchurch Blvd, Southend, all standards, 2-4.45pm (no partner needed), 7.30-10.30pm, call Danny 07843 771774.  
■ Weekly Craft Workshop – St Peter's Church Hall, Thundersley, 6-8pm, Michelle 07730 582784.  
■ Basildon Players Amateur Dramatic Group – 8-10pm, James Hornsby High School, Leinster Road, Laindon, details Jeff 07913 426371, join@basildonplayers.co.uk.  
■ Zumba – Pitsea Day Centre Over-50s, Northlands Pavement, Pitsea, 9.15-10am, 01268 465432.  
■ Short Mat Bowls Club in Hadleigh – welcomes new members, Canvey Short Mat Bowls Club, call Kevin 01268 792433.  
■ Short Mat Bowls, Thundersley, beginners welcome, details 01268 779174.  
■ Indoor Short Mat Bowls – Prittlewell Bowls Club, Priory Park, Southend, Ray 01268 777666.  
■ Indoor Bowls – George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for over-50s, Monday 2-4pm, 01268 465854.  
■ Whist – George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for over-50s, 10am to noon, details 01268 465854.  
■ Senior Citizens Club – Ghyllgrove Centre, Butneys, 1.30-3.30pm, 01268 293995.  
■ Evening of clairvoyance – 57 Point Road, Canvey, SS8 7TT. 3pm, £3 all profits to

## WHAT'S ON

charity. Tel: 07922 001433 or 01268 691922.  
■ Development Healing Circle – Face Salon, Burdett Avenue, Westcliff, understanding of spiritual healing and prayer, 8-9.30pm, 07879 004744.  
■ Fitness Walking – from Leigh Tennis Club, Highlands Boulevard, Leigh-on-Sea, 7.15-8.15pm, 01702 715509.  
■ Scrabble Club – Wesley Church Hall, Elm Road, Leigh Broadway, no partner needed, 7-10pm, £3, call 01268 727915.  
■ Hadleigh Castle Townswomen's Guild – Appliance Hall, Old Fire Station, High Street SS7 2PA, 1.30-3.30pm. Visitors £2.50.  
■ IT help sessions – Billericay Library, 10.30am to noon. Details 01277 624624.  
■ Computer help session – Billericay Library, 10.30am to noon. Free. 01277 624624.

### Tuesday, December 12

■ Painting class – The Studio, Glebelands Nursery, Hawkwell, Hockley, SS5 4JY. 10.30am-12.30pm. Details 01702 30717.  
■ Counselling service – The Olive Tree Centre, 9am-9pm, call 01702 524346, enquiries@olivetreecentre.org.uk.  
■ Yoga Class – Thorpe Community Centre, Delaware Road, Shoeburyness, 7-8.30pm, £6, bring a blanket and yoga mat, ages 16-plus. 07961 314983.  
■ Social Dance Class – ballroom, Latin American and sequence, 8.30-10.30pm, Ashingdon and East Hawkwell Memorial Hall, 01702 546219/542349.  
■ Craft Group – Oasis Coffee House, 189 Leigh Rd, Leigh, 2.30-4pm, 01702 471873.  
■ Social Dance – 1.45pm, St Cedd's Church, Bridgewater Drive, Westcliff. Ballroom, sequence, Latin, 01702 618771.  
■ Evening of clairvoyance – St Cecilia's Christian Spiritualist Church, 9 Lord Roberts Avenue, Leigh-on-Sea, 7.15pm, £2.50.  
■ Folk Music – The Hoy at Anchor Folk Club, Royal British Legion, 7/9 Northview Drive, Westcliff, 8pm, 01702 715111.  
■ Walking netball sessions – Civic Hall, Grays, 9-10am. £2 per session.  
■ Singles Social Group – The Mews, Nelson Mews off Clarence Road car park, Southend, age 50-plus, 8pm, 07970 432994.  
■ Singles Friendship Club for 50-plus – South Benfleet Social Club, 8.15pm, details Maureen 01268 692998.  
■ Table Top Sale – Outpatients Foyer, Southend Hospital, 9.30am-3pm. Breathe Easy Southend, helping support people with lung problems. 01702 258661.  
■ Pathfinders Blind and Partially Sighted Group – Fryerns Baptist Church, Whitmore Way, Basildon, SS14 2TJ, 9.30am-2pm.  
■ Little Lunchers Activity Club – St Michael's Church, Rayleigh, 11.45am-1.15pm.

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Throughout the year you can enjoy a drink and a bite to eat in The Bell's bar which is open all day, every day - or a meal in its 50-seater Chimes Restaurant, which is open every evening and for Sunday lunch.

The Mid-Week Menu has a choice of a main

course only for £9.95, two courses for £11.95 or three for £13.95, with choices, from white-bait to smoked mackerel and soup of the day to start, followed by main dishes such as homemade pie of the day, home-cooked ham with eggs, pan-fried liver and bacon, baked seafood and homemade lasagne.

An a la carte menu is served on Saturday evenings with an extensive choice including homemade chicken liver pate, Scottish smoked salmon, toasted bruschetta, and breaded whitebait for starters, and pork belly, lamb shank and hunter's chicken - chargrilled

chicken breast smothered with bar-becue sauce and bacon and topped with mature cheddar cheese - as well as grill, burger and fish dishes for mains. All of this is complemented by side orders and desserts.

More choice is available on Sunday with a snack menu in the bar and a blackboard which includes a choice of four roasts, homemade pie of the day, fresh fish, and other dishes.

The Chimes Restaurant can be hired for private functions, a sit down meal for up to 50 people, or a buffet party for 100.

Call 01245 400616 or visit [www.bellandchimesrettendon.co.uk](http://www.bellandchimesrettendon.co.uk)

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15th Dec: Beagles  
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O'SHEA**

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The management reserves the right to refuse service without giving a reason



## Advertisement feature

**M**OUTH-WATERING food is served at Westcliff's Spaghetti Junction. This popular restaurant offers some of the finest Italian and continental dishes in town.

As well as excellent pizzas and pastas and varied continental cuisine including paella, chicken piccante, loin of pork calvados and fillet steak wrapped in bacon, Spaghetti Junction offers a choice of fish and meat dishes plus vegetarian options. In addition there is a Chef's Special menu and board to view and a Children's Menu offering dishes for £4.95, Monday to Saturday.

The restaurant has a reputation for its mega-choice of delicious ice creams and desserts such as pancakes, waffles, chocolate fudge gâteau and Café Gourmand, a French favourite offering a variety of delicious mini desserts with a cup of black, white or espresso coffee.

Ice creams include the mouth-watering Chocahoneycombi, vanilla and white chocolate honeycomb ice cream with caramel sauce and cream, Caramelody, Maccarapple and Mystical Mix and liqueur ice creams such as Crème de la Crème with vanilla ice cream, Maltesers, chocolate sauce, crème de menthe

and cream and Blarney Bliss with vanilla and coffee ice cream, toffee sauce, cantuccini biscuits, Baileys and cream. The restaurant also has "sharing desserts" such as the Doubly Divine, and Twix as Good.

Spaghetti Junction has deals from Monday to Friday evenings when diners can enjoy the Pizza and Pasta Menu with a choice of starters and pasta or pizza for £10.95, while the Duo Menu is a main course and dessert also for £10.95. "Buy one, get one half price" deals are available on these menus on Monday evenings.

A three-course set menu is from Monday to Friday evenings for £16.95, while on Saturday evenings there is a three-course set menu for £22.95.

The a La Carte menu is served from Monday to Saturday evenings and the restaurant has gluten-free options.

Spaghetti Junction is the ideal setting for parties of up to 30 and is available for private functions.

The restaurant, at 767 London Road, Westcliff (opposite Chalkwell Park), has a takeaway menu and is open from Monday to Saturday from 6pm until late.

For Christmas bookings, call 01702 473388 or visit [www.spaghettijunctionrestaurant.co.uk](http://www.spaghettijunctionrestaurant.co.uk).

# All roads lead to the Junction



**Enjoy some of the finest Italian & Continental dishes in town, in our air-conditioned fully licensed restaurant.**

**Open Monday to Saturday 5pm till late**

**Extensive A La Carte Menu available**

**Monday to Saturday Evenings.**

**MANY GLUTEN FREE OPTIONS**

**Selection of Vegetarian dishes available.**

**Specials**

In addition to our menus we offer a good choice of starters & main courses from the "Chef's Specials" board available Monday to Saturday.

A wide selection of fresh fish is also one of our specialities.

**Take Away Service**

We offer a take away service for any dish on our A La Carte Menu.

**Parties**

Parties catered for up to 30 people.

**NEW COCKTAIL & MILKSHAKE MENU**

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**BUY ONE GET ONE 1/2 PRICE ON PIZZA & PASTA & DUO MENUS ONLY**

**Pizza & Pasta Menu -**  
Starter plus Main Course - available Monday to Friday Evenings - £11.95

**Duo Menu - Main Course plus Dessert -**  
available Monday to Friday Evenings - £11.95

**3 Course Set Menu**  
available Monday to Friday Evenings - £16.95

**NEW Saturday 3 Course Menu Price**  
Saturday Evenings - £22.95

**Children's Menu - £4.95**

**Exciting New Dessert Menu**  
**Now available**  
with a wide variety of delicious ice creams, pancakes & other mouth-watering delights

**Spaghetti Junction Restaurant**  
767 London Road, Westcliff-on-Sea. SS0 9SU  
(Opposite Chalkwell Park)

Call us for more details on: **01702 473388**  
[www.spaghettijunctionrestaurant.co.uk](http://www.spaghettijunctionrestaurant.co.uk)

**XMAS & NEW YEAR'S EVE BOOKINGS NOW BEING TAKEN**



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- On-board evening entertainment, English commentary and a cruise manager
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These holidays are organised & operated by Newmarket Holidays Ltd. ABTA V7812. Subject to availability. Single supplements apply. Standard phone charges.





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Champagne and canapes followed by four course gala dinner followed by dancing to a live band and Disco DJ to late

**£85.00 per person.**

The Chichester Hotel also has 36 bedrooms we offer preferential rates for those attending our gala dinner, accommodation packages include brunch on New Year Day

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- ✓ Visit divided Nicosia, walled Famagusta and 'Ghost city' Varosha
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- ✓ Fully escorted by a friendly, experienced tour manager
- ✓ Seven nights' three-star half-board hotel accommodation, return flights and transfers

\*Book by 14 Dec 2017. Prices shown do not include discount. Not valid with any other offer, subject to availability and may be withdrawn at any time.

### Christmas Markets Rhine River Cruise

**Festive Fly-Cruise on board welcoming Olympia**  
**4 days from £539** Flying direct from London Stansted, 14 & 17 Dec 2017

Explore the beauty of the Rhine Valley - its picture-book towns and villages dressed up for Christmas - aboard a beautifully appointed cruise vessel.

#### Tour highlights

- ✓ Three nights' full board accommodation on board Olympia
- ✓ Cruise through the beautiful Rhine Gorge, beneath the Lorelei
- ✓ Christmas market calls at Rüdesheim and Koblenz

- ✓ On-board entertainment and English commentary
- ✓ Escorted by a friendly, experienced cruise manager
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\*Quote promo code FNK6LJ. Applies to 5, 11, 14 & 17 Dec 2017 departures only. Offers are strictly limited to availability & may be withdrawn any time.

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**3 course carvery**  
**£14.95**

Served until 6pm with live music from 3pm

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**3 course cold meat carvery**  
**£14.95**

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# Property



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## Horizon wins Customer Relocation Award at top estate agency event

ESTATE agent Horizon is celebrating today after winning a Customer Relocation Award at the Relocation Agent Network Awards Dinner, which followed the National Conference and Exhibition.

Held at the Park Plaza Riverbank Hotel, London, last month, the Customer Relocation Award recognises nine estate agents that have generated the greatest number of referrals through the Relocation Agent Network referral scheme.

Referrals are an important element of the Relocation Agent Network membership.

Should a customer plan to relocate to another area of the country, their local Network agent can recommend that the member in the destination location assist in their move.

As each of their area's selected local experts, as considered by Relocation Agent Network, members are able to offer customers the very highest standard of customer service.

The event culminated in an evening black tie awards



**WINNERS:** Sue Perkins, left, Angela Wakeling, Craig Wakeling, Neil Burroughs and Richard Tucker

dinner hosted by comedian and TV presenter, Sue Perkins, who presented Horizon with their award.

Craig Wakeling, Director at Horizon, said of the award win: "We are delighted to have won the Customer Relocation Award as it reflects the commitment and hard work of the Horizon team."

Relocation Agent Network's Managing Director, Richard Tucker, said: "Congratulations to Horizon on their very deserved award win."

"As an integral part of Relocation Agent Network, referrals provide customers with a unique service."

"The Customer Relocation Award recognises the Network member who maximises these customer referrals to their very fullest potential."

**Horizon Estate Agents**  
42 Heddingham Place  
Rochford  
Essex  
SS4 1UP

01702 411000  
[www.horizonestates.co.uk](http://www.horizonestates.co.uk)

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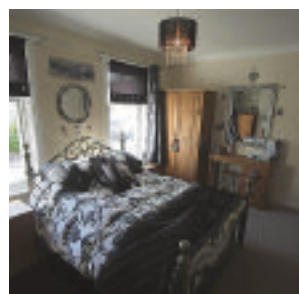
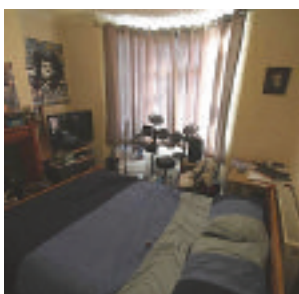


## Westcliff On Sea £340,000



- Spacious family house close to Chalkwell Park,
- Three bedrooms
- Kitchen breakfast room
- Conservatory
- No onward chain

## Great Wakering £215,000



- Attractive semi detached house
- Two reception rooms, two double bedrooms
- First floor bathroom/wc
- 60' rear garden
- No onward chain

## Westcliff On Sea £720 pcm



- Purpose built apartment
- Two bedrooms
- South facing sun balcony
- Secured off street parking

## Southend On Sea £1,050 pcm



- Detached family house
- Three bedrooms
- Bathroom with separate shower cubicle
- West backing garden

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- 23' Lounge
- 15' Kitchen
- 2 Bathrooms
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- 55' Rear Garden
- Garage & Long Drive
- Popular Location
- No Onward Chain
- Early Viewing recommended



## RAYLEIGH £300,000

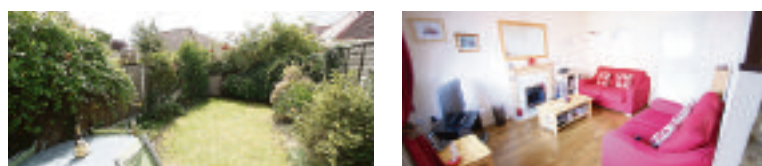
- New Price
- 2 Bedrooms
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- Close to Shops & Station
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## HULLBRIDGE £510,000

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- Conservatory
- 2 Bathrooms
- Well maintained Throughout
- 150' Rear Garden
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- Must Be Viewed Internally
- No Onward Chain



## ROCHFORD £250,000

- 2 Bedrooms
- Spacious Lounge
- Modern Kitchen Diner
- Newly Fitted Bedroom
- 50' Garden
- Garage & Own Drive
- Close To Town & Station
- Popular Cul De Sac Location
- No Onward Chain
- Well Maintained

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Darren Emmett: [darren@stgeorgehomes.co.uk](mailto:darren@stgeorgehomes.co.uk)



# RONA

## SALES & LETTINGS



### Rayleigh

**Guide £240,000-£250,000**

Located in a quiet, cul de sac location, this attractive, secure, well maintained complex has lots to offer including its prime location, which is close to Rayleigh High Street and train station. With two double bedrooms a 24 foot open plan kitchen/lounge/diner and allocated parking, this property fits the needs, of even the most demanding buyer. This light flooded, low maintenance, two double bedroom ground floor flat, with no onward chain is ready to move in straight away.

## PROPERTY OF THE WEEK



### Rayleigh

**Guide Price £360,000-£380,000**

Rona of Rayleigh are proud to market this three bedroom semi detached house in a sought after location. This immaculate CHAIN FREE property will appeal to first time buyers, families needing to be in the nearby vicinity of excellent schools and good accessibility to the station or wanting to be in a prime location for Rayleigh High Street. With a newly fitted contemporary, luxury kitchen and bathroom, freshly painted and plastered walls in neutral colours, there is little left to do other than move straight in and call it 'home'! With a winning combination of original and modern features throughout this 'perfect' home really is a rare find, so don't delay call to arrange your viewing today - this one is sure to go quickly.



### Rayleigh

**Guide £425,000 - £450,000**

Guide Price £425,000 - £450,000 Rona of Rayleigh are proud to market, this spacious, cleverly extended four double bedroom, semi detached home. Being ideally situated for Rayleigh high Street, Rayleigh mainline station and with good schools surrounding it, this generous sized property really does tick all the boxes required for busy family life. This lovely home is located in a sought after road, and offers substantial living accommodation, a good sized south facing garden with a raised decked area and all the electrics, ideal for putting up the heated family swimming pool in summertime! In addition this wonderful home boast a 20ft conservatory, a 23ft lounge and enough off street parking for everyone to park on the drive! (With the additional advantage of a detached garage too.)



### Eastwood

**Gude £290,000-£305,000**

From the moment you walk up the pathway of this QUAIN AND CHARMING property, it is easy to see that its current owner has put an exceptional amount of love and artistic style into making this property an enviable, cosy, desirable home. On entering the property that feeling heightens, as you walk into the IMMACULATELY PRESENTED light flooded lounge, with its tasteful decor, oozing charm, comfort and style. In addition, the property boasts an attractive low maintenance SECLUDED GARDEN, with pretty summer house and of course the all-important three DOUBLE bedrooms. This lovely semi-detached bungalow, would make a fantastic perfect first time buy or the perfect downsize.



### Hullbridge £295,000

Rona of Rayleigh are delighted to bring to market, this charming TWO DOUBLE bedroom bungalow with NO ONWARD CHAIN, located in a popular road in the heart of Hullbridge Village. This spacious bungalow is positioned on a DESIRABLE CORNER PLOT and oozes potential. Boasting a 20ft lounge and a decent sized master bedroom. This spacious bungalow offers a bright, airy feel throughout and has the added advantage of having main bus routes, local amenities and beautiful walks along the river Crouch all in close vicinity. This lovely bungalow has been well maintained and has a lovely, sunny rear garden and has the additional advantage of a detached garage.

**6 High Street, Rayleigh, Essex, SS6 7EG**  
**01268 774316 - [www.rona.co.uk](http://www.rona.co.uk)**



# RONA

## SALES & LETTINGS



### Eastwood Guide Price £485,000 - £510,000

Rona of Rayleigh are proud to boast this beautiful, imposing four double bedroom family home with double electric garage and spacious driveway with parking for up to 6 cars. Being offered Chain Free is this remarkable home boasts a luxury 21ft conservatory which incorporates an open plan kitchen/diner and second lounge area, overlooking an attractive 100ft garden. Taking account of all this property has to offer, don't miss out on this perfect family home, call today to book your viewing - this property comes highly recommended and is one not to be missed!.



### Hullbridge Guide Price £335,000-£345,000

Nestled in this pretty tree-lined road with all local amenities close by, is this attractive and significantly extended three bedroom semi-detached house. With its lovely low maintenance garden, stunning open plan 28 ft lounge (with extended dining area) driveway for multiple cars and luxury soft close kitchen, with granite surfaces and Neff integrated appliances. When viewing the property, it's easy to see, why the current vendor's feel they have "been spoilt" and want to stay in the village for their next downsize. The location of this home is hard to beat, with local shops, main bus routes and two stations under 1.95 miles all close by, who could ask for more? Not forgetting the added benefit of tranquil, picturesque, country walks along the river Crouch only a short stroll away and the lovely "community" feeling that makes Hullbridge so special and the sought-after area that it is.



### Rayleigh £335,000

Rona's of Rayleigh are delighted to offer for sale this beautiful Victorian Cottage. This quaint and charming property was built in 1852 and benefits from having a feature fireplace with working fire, has a very cosy feel and oozing charm with fabulous view overlooking Rayleigh and an attractive low maintenance secluded garden. Situated in a sought after road and is within walking distance to Rayleigh's High Street and Mainline Station. Perfect for a first time purchase or someone looking to downsize and be in the heart of Rayleigh.



### Hullbridge Guide Price £475,000-£500,000

Rona of Rayleigh are proud to present, this beautiful family home in the perfect village setting. (Just a short stroll from picturesque river crouch.) In recent months much money has been spent on refurbishing this property and it now boasts a modern luxury kitchen with granite surfaces and a beautiful modern bathroom. It has four true sized double bedrooms, (including one with an en-suite.) so there is plenty of space for everyone. Great news for any family, no need to queue for the toilet in the morning rush, as this property has 2 upstairs toilets and 1 downstairs! The beautiful light flooded lounge is the jewel in the crown of this desirable home, and offers the perfect place to kick back, pour yourself a drink and while away the hours while you drift off, admiring the pretty backdrop of your attractive south facing, landscaped Garden.

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Rayleigh Road, THUNDERSLEY **£425,000**



**120ft WEST  
BACKING  
GARDEN**



An Excellent Extended Detached Four Bedroom Family Home In Fine Condition Throughout \ Entrance Lobby 16'9 x 10'1 \ Lounge/Diner 27'6 x 12'1 \ Kitchen/Breakfast Room 11'1 x 11'11 \ Ground Floor W.C \ Bedroom One 13'11 x 11'11 With En-Suite \ Bedroom Two 12'1 x 11'4 \ Bedroom Three 11' x 9'11 \ Bedroom Four 7'8 x 6'1 \ Bathroom \ 120ft West Backing Rear Garden \ Garage 17'4 x 12'2 \ Off Street Parking \ Close To A13 & A127 Trunk Roads \ Convenient Location \ Close To Local Amenities \ Upvc Double Glazing \ Viewings Advised \ EPC- E \ **Call 01702 555888 or live chat at amosestates.com**

Underhill Road, SOUTH BENFLEET **£525,000**



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VIEWS**



Spacious Four Bedroom Detached House In This Desirable, Convenient Turning With Envious Views Over Boyce Hill Golf Course \ Lounge 18'11 x 12'2 \ Kitchen/Diner 18'9 x 13'3 \ Ground Floor W.C \ Bedroom One 12'8 x 9'10 \ Bedroom Two 12'2 x 9'1 \ Bedroom Three 12'3 x 9'6 \ Bedroom Four 8'10 x 8'10 \ Bathroom \ 70ft South Facing Rear Garden Backing Onto Boyce Hill Golf Close \ Close To A13 Trunk Road \ Garage 19'8 x 8'1 \ Ample Off Street Parking \ Easy Access Of Benfleet Station \ Sought After Location \ Viewings Advised \ EPC - D \ **Call 01702 555888 or live chat at amosestates.com**



**HADLEIGH****£220,000**

Offering Far Reaching Views Towards The Estuary & Over Salvation Army Playing Fields A Modern Stylish Property In This Excellent Location \ Lounge/Kitchen 18'10 incl kitchen depth x 11'1 With Balcony \ Kitchen 17'7 x 5'7 \ Bedroom One 12'6 x 8'8 \ Three Piece Shower Room \ Bedroom Two/Reception Room 24'2 x 12'4 \ Off Street Parking To The Rear \ Communal Gardens \ No Onward Chain \ Keys Held \ Being Sold With A New 125 Year Lease Granted On Completion \ EPC Band D \ **Call 01702 555888 or live chat at amosestates.com**

**THUNDERSLEY****£315,000**

A Superb Family Home In Excellent Condition In This Popular Convenient Location \ Ground Floor Cloakroom \ Lounge 11'6 x 10'8 \ Dining Room 15'1 x 10'3 max \ Kitchen 11'7 x 6'3 \ Bedroom One 14'9 x 10'2 \ Bedroom Two 12'5 x 10'2 \ Bedroom Three 10'8 x 6'6 \ Three Piece Shower Room \ 25ft Detached Garage \ Off Street Parking For Several Vehicles \ Delightful South Backing Rear Garden \ Easy Access Of A127 and A13 Trunk Roads \ Viewings Advised \ EPC - D \ **Call 01702 555888 or live chat at amosestates.com**

**THUNDERSLEY****£339,995**

Spacious Four Bedroom Semi Detached Family Home Situated In This Desirable And Quiet Turning \ Lounge 20'1 x 11'1 \ Kitchen/Diner 17'7 x 7'9 \ Lean To/ Conservatory 12' x 7'6 \ Bedroom One 13'1 x 10'5 \ Bedroom Two 12'8 x 8'5 \ Bedroom Three 12'2 x 7'1 \ Bedroom Four 8'3 x 8'2 \ Bathroom \ Approx 70ft Rear Garden \ Garage 18'7 x 8'6 \ Off Street Parking \ Close To A127 \ Walking Distance Of Thundersley Village \ Sole Agents \ Viewings Advised \ **Call 01702 555888 or live chat at amosestates.com**

**HADLEIGH****£325,000**

Spacious Two Bedroom Detached Bungalow Situated In This Popular & Convenient Location \ Lounge 17'7 x 13' \ Kitchen 9'8 x 9' \ Bedroom One 15'8 x 13' \ Bedroom Two/Further Reception Room 12'11 x 11'2 \ Conservatory 11'11 x 9'1 \ Shower Room \ 140ft Rear Garden \ Needing Modernisation \ Close To Local Amenities & Hadleigh Town Centre \ Excellent Location For Both Leigh & Hadleigh Town Centres \ Easy Access To Mainline Station \ Close To Local Bus Routes \ No Onward Chain \ Viewings Advised \ EPC - E \ **Call 01702 555888 or live chat at amosestates.com**

**THUNDERSLEY****£320,000**

An Attractive Three Bedroom Semi-Detached With West Backing Rear Garden, Garage And Much More In This Quiet Location \ Three Bedroom Semi Detached Bungalow \ Entrance Porch \ Entrance Hall \ Lounge/Diner 25'9 x 10'9 \ Conservatory 9'6 x 8'11 \ Kitchen 11'3 x 7'1 \ Bathroom \ Bedroom One 13'5 x 10'2 \ Bedroom Two 11'8 x 9'3 \ Bedroom Three 9'9 x 6'6 \ 30ft West Backing Rear Garden \ Off Street Parking \ Sole Agents \ Viewing Advised \ Walking Distance Of Thundersley Village \ **Call 01702 555888 or live chat at amosestates.com**

**Land required with or without planning.****Thundersley Grove, THUNDERSLEY****£500,000**

Three/Five Bed Detached Family Home (Depending On Layout), Extremely Popular Location \ Reception Hall 13'9 x 12'5 \ Lounge 20'7 x 12'10 \ Dining Room 12'10 x 8'8 \ Kitchen 12'9 x 11' \ Garden Room/Ground Floor Bedroom Four 9' x 5'2 \ Cloakroom \ Ground Floor Utility Room \ Bedroom One 12'11 x 11'1 \ Bedroom Two 13'3 x 10'10 \ Bedroom Three 10'5 x 9'1 \ Bathroom With Four Piece Suite \ West Facing Landscaped Garden \ Wider Than Standard Plot \ Double Length Garage \ Potential To Convert To Granny Annexe \ Desirable Location \ King John & Kingston School Catchment \ Easy Access Of A13 & A127 Trunk Roads \ Burglar Alarm System \ EPC - D \ **Call 01702 555888 or live chat at amosestates.com**

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**team**



### £375,000

**SOUTHEND ON SEA**  
2 double bedroom detached bungalow



- 2 double bedrooms
- Detached bungalow
- Close to shops
- 3 reception rooms
- Close to c2c line
- Ref:3711, EPC:F

### £310,000

**SOUTHEND ON SEA**  
Totally Refurbished 3 bedroom family home



- 3 bedroom
- Close to schools
- Refurbished
- 2 reception
- Close to c2c line
- Ref:3725, EPC:D

### £295,000

**SOUTHEND ON SEA**  
Great location with off street parking



- 3 bedroom
- Off street parking
- Close to c2c line
- 3 reception
- Close to schools
- Ref:3726, EPC:E

### £289,995

**SHOEBURYNESSE**  
Well decorated with a south backing garden



- 3 bedroom
- No onward chain
- South backing
- 2 reception
- Off street parking
- Ref:3722, EPC:C

### £285,000

**SOUTHEND ON SEA**  
Modern, with 2 off street parking spaces



- 3 bedroom
- Close to schools
- 2 parking spaces
- 2 reception
- Close to c2c line
- Ref:3723, EPC:C

### £270,000

**SOUTHCHURCH VILLAGE**  
Family home with new fitted granite kitchen



- 3 bedroom
- Close to schools
- New granite kitchen
- 3 reception
- Close to c2c line
- Ref:3728, EPC:F

### £275,000

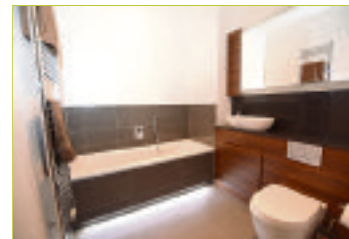
**SOUTHCHURCH VILLAGE**  
Spacious 3 bedroom end terraced home



- 3 bedrooms
- End terraced house
- Close to schools
- 2 reception rooms
- Close to c2c line
- Ref:3710, EPC:D

### £220,000

**SOUTHEND ON SEA**  
Luxury 2 bed apartment with 2 parking spaces



- 3rd Floor Apartment
- En-Suite
- Close to C2C Line
- 2 Bedroom
- 2x Secure Parking
- Ref:3679, EPC:B





### LEIGH-ON-SEA £450,000 OIRO

Internal viewing is essential of this outstanding three bedroom FAMILY SIZE BUNGALOW standing on a very impressive plot approx 55' x 170' with a superb 55' x 145' rear garden. The bungalow offers very spacious accommodation including an open plan 22' x 20' lounge and dining area, 14'8 x 11'5 fitted kitchen, large conservatory, 3 bedrooms and a luxury bathroom. This is an extremely rare opportunity Ref etl5617



### MARINE ESTATE, LEIGH £599,995

A large four bedroom semi detached family house with lovely west facing garden situated on the sought after Marine Estate within the Westleigh Schools catchment area and walking distance of Leigh Station. Three large bedrooms on the 1st floor plus 3rd reception room/ 4th bedroom on the ground floor, large 18' x 12'7 lounge and separate 18'9 x 12'2 dining room, new fitted kitchen, garage and parking. ETL5635

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### 3 DOUBLE BEDROOM MAISONETTE, LEIGH £295,000

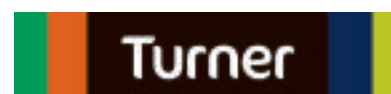
An excellent opportunity to purchase this extremely large three double bedroom first and second floor maisonette, situated in a very convenient location close to local shops, within the Westleigh school catchment area and walking distance of Leigh station. Superb size accommodation including, 20' x 14' 8 lounge, 21' x 10' kitchen / diner, bathroom /w.c., bedroom one 20' x 11'5, bedroom two 14' x 10'6, bedroom three 13'6 x 13' plus d/glazing, gas c/h, own garden and potential off street parking space.

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# B&B

# Sales

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## BENFLEET £650,000

- Quiet elevated tree lined turning
- Substantial 9 year old 4/5 bedroom detached house
- Luxury kitchen/breakfast room with separate utility
- Split level lounge/diner with separate study/bedroom 5
- Four piece en-suite shower room & separate four piece family bathroom
- Landscaped & tiered garden with astro turf
- Viewing recommended



## LAINDON O.I.E.O. £400,000

- Impressive & Spacious Town House
- 5 Bedrooms with 3 En-suites & 3pce Family Bathroom
- Lounge With Box Bay Window & Spacious Kitchen/Diner
- Offered For Sale With Vacant Possession & No Onward Chain
- Off Road Parking & Car Port
- Less Than 10 Years Old
- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing



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## DAWS HEATH £390,000

- Spacious 3/4 bedroom detached family home
- Sought after Daws Heath location
- Enormous potential for further extensions subject to normal permissions
- Recently re-fitted kitchen/breakfast room
- Upgraded three piece bathroom
- Double garage
- Upgraded central heating & double glazing
- Recently rewired



## HADLEIGH £309,995

- Well Presented Semi Detached Bungalow
- Close Proximity to Hadleigh Country Park, A13 & local amenities
- 2 Double Bedrooms
- Within King John School Catchment
- Approximately 80' Rear Garden
- Modern Kitchen & Bathroom
- Potential for erection of garage to rear



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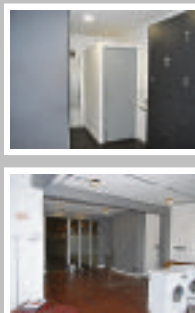
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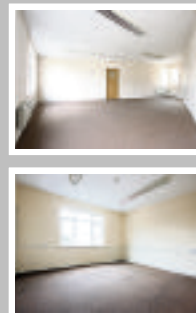
Eastern Esplanade, Southend-on-Sea

**RENT £2,500 PCM**

The premises comprises a double fronted two storey commercial building which has most recently been used as a gym but may suit other similar commercial uses. The property has been fitted out by the previous tenant and benefits from working areas on the ground and first floors with male and female changing room facilities on the first floor incorporating showers, w.c.'s and locker rooms.



Sutton Road, Southend-on-Sea

**RENT £16,000 PAX**

Hair & Son are offering to let this detached office building on a substantial corner of Sutton Road and next to the Greyhound Business Park which includes traders such as Matalan, Farm Foods, KFC and Iceland. The property includes a number of single offices, boardroom and male and female W/C's. The office is located a short walk from Southend High Street. Rail links to London via Fenchurch Street and Liverpool Street are located in the Town Centre.



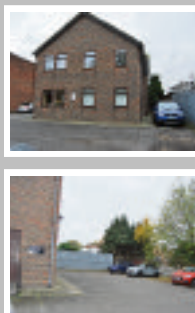
Rochford Road, Southend-on-Sea

**RENT £9,000 PAX - £10,000 PAX**

An opportunity not to be missed! Hair and Son are delighted to offer 2 commercial units on the ground floor within a newly built complex of mixed commercial and residential units. The commercial units are 485 sq.ft (45 sq.m) and 550 sq.ft (51 sq.m). The units are to be let as a 'shell'. A rent free period is offered for fitting out (subject to status).



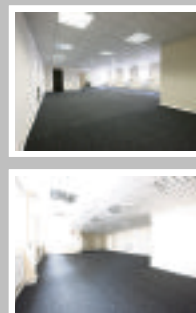
INVESTMENT FOR SALE, Knightswick Road, Canvey

**FREEHOLD £500,000**

The premises comprise a detached office building in the Town Centre, Canvey Island which has been occupied as a solicitor's office for many years. The building is well located and benefits from car parking to the rear. Currently let on a full repairing and insuring lease for a period of six years with effect from June 2015 and subject to a rent review in June 2018. The lease is within the security of tenure provisions of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954. Rent Producing £29,500 PAX.



High Street, Rayleigh

**RENT £20,000 PAX**

The premises comprise a first floor office located in the centre of Rayleigh High Street above Bet Fred. The accommodation is approached via an access door to the side of the premises (shared with the 2nd floor occupiers). The open plan space has been partitioned a good sized open plan area with some smaller offices. The suite is newly decorated and carpeted and benefits from Category II style lighting, gas fired central heating (not tested).

# Agent Directory

## Auction House celebrates selling over 20,000 lots in 10 years

The UK's number 1 property auctioneer Auction House – which has a branch in Essex – is celebrating its 10th anniversary, having successfully sold over 20,000 (20,516) lots since its inception on 1 July 2007.

In the last decade the award-winning brand has grown to become the largest residential auctioneer in the UK in terms of lots sold, having held 1,415 auctions across the country, with a success rate of 78%, and raising a total of more than £2.3bn (£2,308m).

Marking the occasion, Director, Andrew Stallard said, "The Auction House story has been one of spectacular achievement. In the last ten years we have grown from having just a single sales room in Norwich to running 40 auction rooms across the UK, and a collective annual turnover in the region of £10 million.

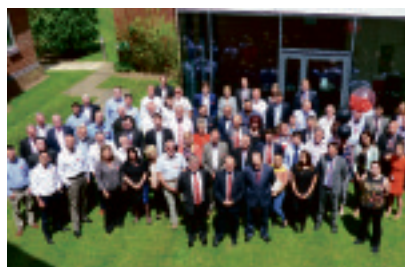
"We are now the auctioneer of choice in most parts of the country. Our results show that we have a strong team delivering a top-level service to our sellers and buyers. We're committed to keeping our title of the UK's Number 1 Auctioneer and are looking forward to the next ten years."

The group held its 10th anniversary conference at the Woodland Grange Conference Centre in Leamington Spa earlier this month (Thursday 15 June), which was attended by over 100 member and supplier delegates (see photograph attached). The company also announced that it is refreshing its brand, maintaining red as the dominant colour, but with a cleaner, simpler logo.

Andrew added: "Over the last ten years auctions have become increasingly popular and we've made our service more accessible and successful for a higher numbers of

sellers. During that time, the average selling price at Auction House has risen from £80,000 to £130,000.

"Auctions have become a mainstream alternative on the back of our activity and there is now a wide understanding that local properties sell at higher prices to local buyers through nearby auction rooms – a theme we are committed to developing throughout the next decade."



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## Eye checks 'vital for safe driving'

By Chris Russon

THE man responsible for ensuring the nation's drivers have good eyesight has told of the need for regular eye tests.

Dr Gareth Rees, secretary of the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency's vision panel, says that all motorists should get their eyes tested at least once every two years.

He points out that the DVLA has minimum eyesight standards that all drivers need to demonstrate to prove they are safe behind the wheel.

And he warns that if you suspect your vision is getting worse you should act immediately.

Dr Rees has explained how the DVLA goes about deciding on vision standards for driving and told more about his role.

"I've been a doctor for 41 years and have been DVLA's Vision Panel Secretary for 10 years. My main role is to liaise between DVLA and the Honorary Medical Advisory Panel on Visual Disorders," he said.

"The panel meets every six months and is made up of eye-



**WARNING: If you suspect your vision is getting worse you should act immediately**

sight specialists, who provide DVLA with expert advice on how to apply and interpret the law when assessing fitness to drive.

"We all have busy lives, and sometimes we might overlook the signs that our eyes are not as good as they were.

"You might be finding it harder to judge distances, you might be struggling to read the newspapers, or it's getting more difficult

for you to drive at night. These are just a few signs that your eyesight may be deteriorating.

"In line with advice from optometrists, our advice is that you should get your eyes tested at least every two years.

"But if you recognise any of the signs above, don't wait – go and get checked out straight away with your optician or doctor. If they advise you to tell DVLA about your eyesight, you can do this online or by writing to us."

And he stresses that anyone not meeting the eyesight standards should stop driving immediately and inform the DVLA.

"Don't worry – usually, most people who tell us they've got a medical condition are still allowed to drive," added Dr Rees.

"If you have a 'progressive' (worsening) condition but can still meet the eyesight standards for driving, you may get a short-term licence rather than a full-term one. This type of licence lasts for one, two, three or five years and when it's due for renewal, we let you know. It's better to be safe than sorry. So if you're in doubt, get it checked out."

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Westcliff-on-Sea, SS0 9LA. The proposed  
variation is to extend the existing licensed  
hours from 11.00 to 00.00 on Sunday to  
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day on Friday and Saturday. Responsible  
authorities or any person may make  
representations to the Licensing Authority  
(Southend-on-Sea Borough Council).  
All such representations shall be made  
in writing, by 26th December 2017.  
Representations should be sent to the  
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Borough Council, Civic Centre (Floor  
13), Victoria Avenue, Southend-on-Sea,  
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licact2003@southend.gov.uk.  
A record of the application, and the  
statutory register of the Licensing  
Authority, may be inspected at the  
Council's office address given above,  
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**BLAKE**, 60, CHOC, 58s, slim, WLM female, age and status not important, for adult fun. Discretion assured. Tel No: 0906 500 3766 Box No: 428239

**BLAKE**, 30, 6ft, slim, N/S, into sport, likes keeping fit, the outdoors, looking to meet a mature, dark skinned Indian woman for good times. If you're interested please get in contact. Tel No: 0906 500 3766 Box: 428617

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**MICHAEL**, 30, white, 6ft, slim, into sports, cycling, running, N/S, adventurous, looking to meet an Arabian or Persian female, any age, for good times. Please get in touch. Tel No: 0906 500 3766 Box No: 428689

**NICE** looking genuine guy, 5' 11", dark hair, green eyes, very fit and sexy, seeking a fun, naughty female, for lots of adult fun. Text only replies. Mailbox: 6581588

**HOP** carrier, 45, tall, good-looking, GSOH, easygoing, kind hearted, seeks female for a relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3766 Box No: 428666

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**DARRAN**, 50s, 6ft, 6ft, male, looking for bisexual relationship with straight guy. Age unimportant. Can accommodate or travel. Text only replies. Mailbox: 6190311

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# BLUES BACK ON COURSE

## Football

**Southend United 2  
Oldham Athletic 0  
Sky Bet League One**

**By Rowland Lyons at Roots Hall**  
SOUTHEND closed the gap on the play-offs to seven points, as goals from Jason Demetriou and Josh Wright sealed Southend's first league win for five weeks on Saturday.

Keeper Mark Oxley saved Craig Davies's first-half penalty kick.

In this re-arranged clash – due to both sides falling at the first FA Cup hurdle – Preston loan-man, Eoin Doyle, wasted a first minute chance for the Latics, failing to hit the target from the edge of the box.

Southend hit back from a Michael Lightly corner-kick.

Visiting keeper Johnny Placide was lucky to stay on the pitch after appearing to strike Southend's Simon Cox. In an incident missed by referee, Charles Breakspear, the goalkeeper only received a lecture.

The hosts went on to dominate and having seen a Lightly effort blocked, Cameron Dunningham floored Wright and Demetriou sent Placide the wrong way from the spot – only the Blues' second success from six penalty kicks this term.

It was all Southend by now, and on the half-hour mark Ryan Leonard should have increased the hosts' lead, but his close-range header from a Hendrie cross flashed wide.

The chances kept falling for the Shrimpers, with a well-placed Demetriou electing to pass rather than shoot. But, this freed up an unmarked Marc-Antoine Fortune, who saw his angled drive deflected wide.

Southend were then almost ruining their wastefulness, when on 40 minutes, Demetriou turned villain and tripped Rob Hunt a foot within the home penalty box.



SCORER: Jason Demetriou  
Photo by Martin Dalton

Breakspear immediately pointed to the spot and booked the Cyprus international for his pains.

Davies stepped up and fired his 12-yarder down the centre of the goal. But, volleyball-style and standing his ground, Oxley punched the spot kick high over the South Stand.

Despite a bright Latics start to the second period, with Jack Byrne and Davies going close, Wright doubled Southend's advantage with a searing 54th minute, close-range volley, following excellent Fortune and Stephen McLaughlin approach play.

Wright then had a couple of chances to put the game out of reach, before Doyle spurned an excellent 78th minute opportunity from sub Tope Obadeyi's pin-point cross and headed woefully wide.

Shortly after Leonard had missed the target, another visiting chance

went a begging as Doyle – who could have bagged four goals on a forgettable afternoon – headed against the outside of Oxley's far post.

Boss Phil Brown enthused: "Today was a good all-round, team performance. We spoke about where we're going this season. If we hadn't have won today, it would have been too big a gap to bridge. We've got a team capable of playing on another level."

"Today was important as a marker – at twenty games – with nobody else playing. We don't want to be an also-ran team. It was important for us psychologically [to win] today."

With such a lamentable spot-kick record this season, Brown revealed: "I got sick to death of us missing penalties. So, I didn't look and just wanted to see the crowd's reaction. Jason – as a full-back is capable of passing the ball – I just wanted to

see the ball go over the line.

"Whilst I was sure about our penalty, I wasn't so much about theirs. But Charles [Breakspear] gave it. Mark then made a great save, and we go in at the break one-nil up and keep the critics silent."

Brown praised match-winner, Wright, saying: "Josh has probably been our most potent midfielder, since he came to the club. He's definitely got a goal in his locker but it doesn't matter where the goals come from."

He concluded: "Roots Hall is a fortress. We've not lost a league game here. We needed to hit form now and that's what we're doing."

Opposing boss, Ritchie Wellens admitted: "We didn't cope all-game with Marc-Antoine Fortune. But, we had four or five good chances to win, including the penalty. However, it's probably the first time I think we haven't deserved anything from the game."

Goalscorer Demetriou declared: "I want to be the penalty taker now and I want to get Mark Oxley a new contract after another penalty save."

Southend are in Checkatrade Trophy action at Peterborough United on Wednesday (7.45pm), before returning to league action at Bristol Rovers on Saturday (3pm).

**Southend United:** Mark Oxley, Jason Demetriou, Anton Ferdinand (capt), Michael Turner, Stephen Hendrie, Michael Lightly (Anthony Wordsworth 45), Josh Wright, Ryan Leonard, Simon Cox (Amadou Ba 83), Marc-Antoine Fortune. Subs: Nathan Bishop, Dru Yearwood, Jermaine McGlashan, John White, Nile Ranger.

**Oldham Athletic:** Johnny Placide, Cameron Dunningham, Kean Bryan, Peter Clarke (capt) (Brian Wilson 60), Rob Hunt, Jack Byrne (Tope Obadeyi 72), Dan Gardner, Osumane Fane, Queensy Menig (Gevaro Nepomuceno 58), Craig Davies, Eoin Doyle, Subs: Ben Wilson, Ryan Flynn, Abdelhakim Omrani, Paul Green.

**Referee:** Charles Breakspear  
**Assistants:** Ian Rathbone & Stuart Butler  
**Fourth Official:** Stephen Finch  
**Attendance:** 5,841

## Improving Hammers fall to late Silva strike

**Manchester City 2-1 West Ham**

**By Brian Jeeves**

WEST Ham United produced a brave and much-improved display against runaway Premier League leaders Manchester City on Sunday, but were undone by second-half goals from Nicolas Otamendi and David Silva at the Etihad Stadium.

Struggling Hammers travelled to the north west off the back of a 4-0 thumping at Everton, and without a Premier League victory in eight outings.

However, it was a bright opening period from David Moyes' men, who stunned the home crowd when Angelo Ogbonna sent a powerful

header beyond City goalkeeper Ederson Moraes after Aaron Cresswell and Manuel Lanzini had fashioned the opening from a well-rehearsed short corner routine.

West Ham continued to defend resolutely, but were eventually undone shortly before the hour when Otamendi profited after Gabriel Jesus had picked him out from the right.

And the East Londoners slipped to their fifth defeat in eight games when Kevin de Bruyne's pass offered Silva the opportunity to send a left-footed volley past Adrian, giving City a record 13th successive Premier League victory.

Speaking after the match,

Hammers boss Moyes said: "For long periods I thought it was going to be our day. We didn't limit them with possession but with clear-cut chances we did, and I thought we were always a threat on the break – arguably we had the best chances in the first half.

"We didn't do well with the ball at times but we stuck at it, saw it through and the boys did a really good job. The effort and the attitude has been really good, it had to be today. The games I want us to play much better but in training, we have been working hard, I can't have any complaints. We just started to fizzle out after about 60 minutes but then we came again and

had a great chance in the last minute to get an equaliser."

West Ham return to Premier League action on Saturday, December 9 when London rivals, Chelsea, are the visitors to the London Stadium (12.30pm).

**Manchester City:** Ederson, Walker, Mangala, Otamendi, Danilo (Jesus 46'), Delph, D. Silva (capt), de Bruyne, Sterling, Sané (B. Silva 90+2'), Agüero (Fernandinho 85'). Subs not used: Bravo, Kompany, Gundogan, B. Silva, Fernandinho, Toure.

**West Ham United:** Adrian, Zabaleta (capt), Ogbonna, Rice, Cresswell, Fernandes, Obiang, Lanzini (Arnautovic 69'), Kouyate (Sakho 43'), Masuaku, Antonio (Ayew 88'). Subs not used: Trott, Martinez, Quina, Johnson.

**Referee:** Mike Dean  
**Attendance:** 54,203

## THE BIG MATCH

**HAMMERS v CHELSEA**

Premier League  
London Stadium  
Saturday, December 9 (12.30pm)



## Non-league round-up

## Higgins boosts Rocks' revival

**By Brian Jeeves**

SAM HIGGINS bagged a brace, while Reece Harris also found the target as East Thurrock United continued their recent National League South revival with a 3-0 success over Welling United at Park View Road.

This was the Rocks' second successive 3-0 victory after enduring a run of eight matches without a league win. Meanwhile, Concord Rangers also won on their travels. First-half goals from Lewis Taaffe and Khale Da Costa helped the Beach Boys to a 2-1 success at Bognor Regis Town.

Michael Spillane's looping header gave Chelmsford City the lead against Hungerford Town at the Melbourne Stadium. However, the Clarets continued to lose ground on the promotion places as Tom Meecham's late equaliser earned Town a share of the spoils.

It was a difficult afternoon for Braintree Town, who went down 3-1 at Wealdstone. Joe Ellul with the Iron's consolation strike.

Leyton Orient's National League struggles continued as Liam Daly's second-half header earned bottom of the table Solihull Moors a single goal success at Damson Park. New O's boss Justin Edinburgh will have been left in little doubt of the size of the task ahead as Orient extended their winless league run to 15 games.

The O's remain outside the drop zone, three points ahead of another former Football League outfit, Torquay United.

Billericay Town continued their Bostik Premier Division title charge with a 4-0 win over Leiston at the AGP Arena. Jake Robinson bagged a hat-trick for the Blues, while Adam Cunningham was also on target. But it proved to be a difficult afternoon for Thurrock, who crashed 4-1 at Hendon. Ronnie Winn scored the Ship Lane club's goal from the penalty spot shortly before the break.

Nathan Cooper's second-half goal helped AFC Hornchurch to the top of the Bostik North table as AFC Sudbury were beaten 1-0 at Bridge Avenue.

Bowers & Pitsea continued their promotion push with a 4-0 success over Cheshunt. Fahad Nyanja (2), Lewis Manor and Martyn Stokes with the home side's goals.

Kreshnic Krasniqi, Ryan Henshaw and Juan Luque found the net for Heybridge Swifts in a 3-1 win at Brentwood Town. Earlier, Matt Price had given Brentwood the lead at the Arena.

Grays Athletic were in the mood, thumping Witham Town 4-1 at the Village Glass Stadium. Kieran Bishop (2, 1 pen), Ryan Mahal and Jamie Slabber with the Grays goals, while Correy Davidson replied with a late penalty for the home side. Waltham Abbey also won on the road as Nathan Koranteng and Shad Ngandu found the net at Romford. Craig Jeakins replying for Boro.

Junior Ogedi-Uzokwe and Ryan Gondoh scored for Maldon at Tiptree in a 2-2 draw with Canvey Island at the Wallace Binder Ground. Sam Collins and Mitchell Gilbey were both on target for the Gulls. It was the same outcome at Parkside as Aveley drew with Dereham Town. Jordan Watson and Sewa Marah with the Millers' goals. Elsewhere, Barking played out a tense goalless draw at Bury Town.

Hullbridge Sports made the Buildbase FA Vase third round proper with a 3-2 victory over fellow Essex Senior League outfit, Enfield 1893, at Lower Road. But Great Wakering Rovers' involvement in the competition was brought to an end as Cogenhoe Utd won 2-0 at Burroughs Park.

Takeley were the big winners of the day in the Essex Senior League, thrashing Southend Manor 6-0 at Station Road.

Waltham Forest saw off Tower Hamlets 4-1 and West Essex edged out Barkingside 2-1.

Meanwhile, Ilford played out a 1-1 draw with Burnham Ramblers at the Cricklefield Stadium.

Selected action from the ProKit UK Essex Olympian League saw Rayleigh Town win their Premier Division clash with Basildon Town 6-0 at London Road.



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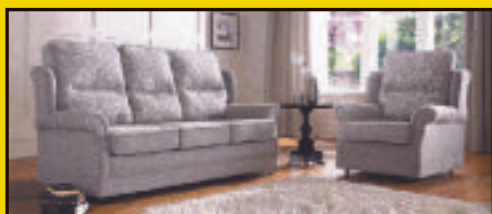






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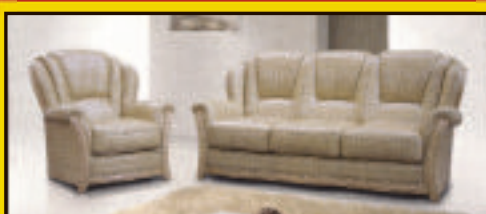
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